

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1402**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Bass**

February 27, 2009

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An act relating to family connection grants.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1402, as introduced, Bass. Family connection grants.

Existing law declares the duty of the state to care for and protect the children that it places into foster care. Under existing law, the State Department of Social Services has various powers and duties relating to ensuring that the needs of foster children are met by local child welfare agencies and foster care providers, including relative caregivers.

This bill would require the department to apply for a federal matching grant, known as a family connection grant, for the purpose of helping children who are in, or at risk of entering, foster care reconnect with family members, as provided for by a specified provision of federal law.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1     SECTION 1. The State Department of Social Services shall
- 2     apply to the federal Secretary of Health and Human Services for
- 3     a family connection grant for the purpose of helping children who
- 4     are in, or at risk of entering, foster care reconnect with family

- 1 members, as provided for in Section 627 of Title 42 of the United
- 2 States Code.

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